



# Tidings

Bringing News of the  
Clover Presbyterian Church

Sister Congregation of Larne First Presbyterian Church  
Larne, Northern Ireland

*February, 2009*

## *Things You Need to Know:*

- The **Hunting Island Church Camping Trip** will be on May 1-3, 2009. Please make your reservations by completing a reservation form and returning it with your \$50 deposit to Tammie Anderson or Alisa Johnson as soon as possible. If you have questions, please contact Tammie (684-5594) or Alisa (akjohnson@bellsouth.net or 631-1876).
- An **Informational Meeting for the Camping Trip** will be held at 7pm on Wednesday, February 4 in the Church Parlor to discuss plans for the trip. Please come!
- The Board of Deacons would like to invite all church members, family, and friends to attend the first **Dinner & Movie Night** for 2009 on February 13. The night will begin with a covered dish dinner at 6pm in the fellowship hall. The movie selected, "The Ultimate Gift," will begin immediately following dinner. All kids under 6 will have a separate movie playing in one of the classrooms. Popcorn and sodas will be provided during the movie, but please bring a covered dish and/or dessert to share for dinner.
- **Come for the Pancakes ~ Stay for the Ashes:** The youth will once again host our Ash Wednesday Pancake Supper on Wednesday, February 25th at 5:30 in the Fellowship Hall. Come start your Lenten Journey with us as we prepare ourselves and make room in our hearts for the miracle of Holy Week.
- **The Men's Fellowship** continues to meet every Tuesday morning at 6:00 am in the Library. This group has been going strong for several years but is eager to welcome new men around the table. The conversation is lively and the coffee is fresh, so come and join in!
- **Regular Wednesday** activities will be held on February 4, 11, and 18th this month! We will not have regular Bible Study on February 25 because of the Ash Wednesday Service at 7pm.
- **Souper Bowl Sunday:** February 1, 2009.
- **Lenten Devotional Table** is coming in February! Please select your daily devotions to deepen your faith this Lenten Season! We will have them for children, families, youth, and adults.
- The **Adult 1 Sunday School** class will be collecting jars of spaghetti sauce, spaghetti noodles and toilet paper during the month of February for the Clover Area Assistance Center. There will be a box in the parlor to collect the items. We appreciate help in gathering these items from all church members.
- Adult 1 is beginning a new study in the month of February. The class will be discussing Eric Elnes' book ***The Phoenix Affirmations***. Everyone is invited to come join in this lively discussion.
- The Seekers Sunday school continues its study of the **Gospel According to John** this month.
- **The Cherub Choir** will sing at the 11:00am service on **February 8th**. The children need to be in their Sunday School class OR they need to be in the Sanctuary at 10:15am for practice. Thanks!

*Things You Need To Know* Continue on Page 4



## Key Notes: The View from the Coxswain's Seat

<sup>25</sup> Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. <sup>26</sup> Therefore I do not run like a man running aimlessly; I do not fight like a man beating the air. (1 Corinthians 9:25-26)

It is an annual rite of spring. Every March since 1829 the best athletes from Britain's oldest Universities have met on the icy waters of the Thames in London to contest The Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race® (Sponsored by *Xchanging*. I'm not kidding, it has a corporate sponsor now).

Generations ago, when the British empire spanned the globe so that it was true that the sun never set upon it, the universities of Oxford and Cambridge could reasonably claim to have collected the very best minds in the world on their faculties and in their classrooms. The Boat Race was a way of testing those minds in athletic competition of the most rigorous sort. (Anyone who has worked a rowing machine for more than 10 minutes knows how strenuous an activity this is.)

Outside of the Olympic Games I don't give much thought or attention to competitive rowing. I know that the athletes are in superb condition. Rowing requires aerobic stamina as well as tremendous strength. Rowers are extremely fit and dedicated to their craft. I also know that rowing requires precise teamwork. If the eight sculls seated at the oars are not perfectly synchronized, if they are not in and out of the water, pulling the boat down the course in perfect harmony, the result is clattering chaos, broken oars and possibly a capsized vessel. Keeping the eight sculls together and guiding the boat down course is the job of the ninth member of the crew, the coxswain.

The coxswain does not row, but the crew cannot win without an expert coxswain in the stern of its boat. The coxswain shouts encouragement, keeps up the tempo, and guides the boat through the currents and twists of the river. "At Hammersmith Bridge," Oxford/Cambridge wisdom has it, "Coxes aim for the second lamp-post from the left which marks the deepest part of the river and therefore the fastest line. 80%-85% of boats ahead at Hammersmith Bridge have won."

That's all I know about rowing, but it is enough.

In two weeks I will be in Durham, NC, helping organize a conference of church leaders who are involved in some way in the preparation of candidates for the ministry. This conference is the culmination of a four year conversation about the nature of pastoral authority and formation. In a rapidly changing world, the terms of pastoral leadership are under negotiation. Thus my recent reflections about rowing and the role of the coxswain.

Like a crew rowing rapidly down stream the church is a community working together in harmony to reach a common goal. We have a finish line in sight toward which we are striving - the exhibition of the Kingdom of heaven to the world. Reaching that goal is hard work - it requires training and discipline. We were not born fully formed Christian disciples. Living the life of Christian faith in the midst of this world, defined by professions, and politics, by media and commerce, is not instinctive - it has to be learned and practiced. The prosperity of the church's mission depends upon everyone in our boat being in top condition. We rely on everyone being well trained, devoted Christian believers - willing and able to make a compelling Christian witness in a hostile and alienated culture.

In contrast to the tall, taught, lithe, well conditioned bodies that man the oars, the coxswain is runt. No one would mistake the coxswain for one of the sculls. In 2008 Cambridge was coxed by Rebecca Dowbiggin (a PhD. candidate in Anglo-Saxon, Norse, and Celtic) who tips the scales at a slight 102 pounds and stands 5'4" tall. Her teammates were all a foot taller and a hundred pounds heavier.

The coxswain is not a rower. Rebecca is not capable of making a meaningful contribution to the speed of the boat through the water by pulling on



# Key Notes: The View from the Coxswain's Seat

an oar. But then, that's not what she's in the boat to do. She is different from the other members of the crew. She has a different purpose. The rowers sit in the boat, oars in their hands, with their backs to the finish line. The cox sits in the stern and faces forward, the only member of the team who can see where the boat is going, who can adjust for wind or current or course. The cox shouts encouragement, and coordinates tempo and teamwork. She can't win without strong oarsmen, but they can't win without her either. Without mutual trust and respect the team will surely lose, if not drown.



Pastoral authority and leadership function in many similar ways to the role of the coxswain on the rowing crew. Pastors can no more do the jobs of their congregants than a coxswain could effectively pull an oar. No one would mistake me for a sales representative (the family would surely starve), or an account executive, or an attorney, or a contractor, or a school teacher, or a civil servant. Making an effective Christian witness in the context within which you live and work is what you all do best. Alongside your expertise at sharing the love of Christ with those with whom you live and work I am a 102 pound weakling. You are well trained and prepared to live lives that testify to

the goodness and mercy of God.

All you need to win this race is a good coxswain. All you need is someone to shout encouragement when you are fatigued and don't want to row anymore; someone who can see the finish line and describe it for you when your efforts seem futile; someone who can keep the community on task, working together as a team; someone who can make the best use of the work that is being put into our common journey; someone to coordinate mission and ministry, overcome headwinds, chart a course forward that will advance the cause of

Christ among us.

All you need is a pastor you trust and respect, who trusts and respects you, to form the kind of community, the kind of team, that can give its all to the task placed before us by Christ.

Peace,

February, 2009

## News and Notes:

- Join us in welcoming **Sandra Davison** to our church. Sandra comes by transfer of letter from the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd in York, SC. She is Lisbeth Carpenter's mother and Mary Mason's grandmother. Welcome Sandra!!

123 Hillcrest Avenue  
Clover, SC  
222-9540

February, 2009

## *Things You Need to Know (con't):*

- The **Junior Choir** will sing in the 11:00 worship service on February 15th.
- The **Annual Stated Meeting of the Congregation** will be held on February 22 following the 11am service.
- **Lenten Breakfasts** are coming! Join us for breakfast and devotional fellowship starting on Sunday, March 1 at 8:00 am in the Fellowship Hall.
- **Ministry Team Fair 2009 ~ WE NEED YOU!** On Sunday, February 22, at 10:00 the ministry teams invite you to come to the Fellowship Hall for our Ministry team fair. Each team will have a display showing what they do and how they serve the church. You can offer your gifts and talents, your time and energy to the cause, or suggest new ways the church might improve on what we do. We want to leave no gift behind, omit no talented disciple from the work of ministry that we share.
- **Healthy Congregations**, a workshop for congregational staff and lay leaders designed and led by the staff of the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center is being offered **March 6-7**. The workshop is being hosted by the Harrisburg United Methodist Church and underwritten in part by the Lilly Foundation. By virtue of certain personal connections leaders from the Clover Presbyterian church are invited to take advantage of this fantastic opportunity for the low cost of only \$15 per person (ordinarily \$90+). Healthy Congregations applies the insights of family systems theory to congregational vitality and health. It helps leaders identify and respond to anxiety in the congregation in ways that will prevent conflict and improve focus on mission.  
If you would be interested in being a part of this exciting workshop, call the church office to register.
- **Finance Report:**
  - \* Offering in December: \$44,627.00
  - \* Loan balance as of January, 2009—\$512,193.75
  - \* Interest rate: 6%
  - \* February building payment: \$5,940.40

## 2009 Ministry Teams

### Evangelism and Outreach

Greg Rowland  
Betty Westmorland

### Christian Education

Jack Scott  
Kimberly Sanders

### Music and Worship

T Cox  
Will Baker

### Stewardship and Finance

Don Hartsoe  
Buddy Clayton

### Administrative and Personnel

Terry Swanner  
Pat King

### Building and Grounds

Max Craig  
Kay Gordon

*February, 2009*

## ***Things You Need to Do:***

- **The Tidings** is available by **e-mail**. Save money, trees and time. Send us an e-mail and request the e-Tidings be sent directly to your inbox!
- **Give!** Your time, your energy and your money to the work of Christ for which we have been gathered.
- Review your covenant of membership with the congregation. Consider the ways you contribute to the mission and ministry of our congregation and renew your commitment to common witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ.
- Welcome our new members and our visitors who worship with us and join us in fellowship every week.
- Come to **Scout Sunday** on February 1, 2009.
- Welcome **Sandra Davison**, our newest member, to the life of this congregation.
- Come to our **Ash Wednesday Service** at 7pm on Wednesday, February 25th. Childcare will be provided.
- Choose your **Lenten devotions** from the Lenten Devotional Table by Ash Wednesday (Feb. 25th)!
- Bring your children to **Junior and Cherub Choir rehearsals**, Wednesday afternoon at 4:45.
- Worship every week—here at 8:45 or 11:00; or wherever your travels take you in the new year. Join with Christians in shared our mission and ministry, glorifying God and proclaiming the gospel.
- **Join an Adult Sunday school class** (if you are not already involved): Adult 1 (Church Parlor), The Seekers (Church Library), Ladies Bible Class (Ladies Classroom), and Men's Bible Class (Recreation Building).
- **Bring your children** to Sunday school EVERY Sunday at 10am (classes toddlers through Senior High).
- Get involved on **Wednesday night Bible Study** (preschoolers through adults) at 6pm!

Worshiping ~ Praying ~ Reading ~ Welcoming ~ Serving ~ Giving

*February, 2009*

## ***Places You Need to Be:***

- **Worship:** 8:45 and 11:00 every Sunday.
- **Sunday School** ~ classes available for all ages. Sunday morning 10:00 a.m.
- **Wednesday Bible Study:** FW Friends, Youth Group, & Adult Bible Study begins at 6pm (immediately following supper at 5:30pm)
- **Men's Fellowship:** Every Tuesday, 6:00 a.m. in the Library for Prayer and Fellowship.
- **Youth Group** (Grades 7-12) on Sunday evenings at 6pm. Supper will be served.
- **Presbyterian Women Circle meetings** every month.
- **Choir, Praise Team and Handbell** rehearsals.
- **Ministry Team Fair**, February 22, 10:00 am.
- **Healthy Congregations Workshop** , March 6-7.

February, 2009

## *People Who Need Your Prayers:*

The one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church; The leaders of our world and nation, the men and women in the military, our President – Barack Obama, our Governor-Mark Sanford, our Mayor-Donnie Grice, our missionaries: Jim & Jodi McGill, Mark & Miriam Adams.

### **For all those vulnerable to economic uncertainty:**

The unemployed, the homeless, those whose health and safety depend upon the charity of others, those in the financial services industry, the construction trades, contractors and other sectors currently under pressure, public policy makers, those facing foreclosure, those who are worried about their savings and anxious about their future.

### **Our Known Sick:**

Grant McLean, Taze Bennett, Ruby Bennett, Nona Beamguard, Mary Sifford, Nancy Ford, George Thomas, Reba Wright, Gene Sifford, Ann Wright, Mary Anne Hall and John Wesley Edmunds.

### **Those unable to worship with us:**

Mary Alice McCarter, Beth Hinshaw, Dean Miller, Ruth Ramsey & Mary Lou Sifford.

### **Friends and Relatives:**

Judy Jackson—daughter of Marge Woods, JoAnn Barnes – mother of Lois Talbert, Doris Talbert – mother of Eric Talbert, Rush Smith—dad of Andy Smith, Al Jauregui—granddad of Jacqui Marquez, Lee Killian, Alice Fowler— aunt of Julia Smith, Steve Lunsford—brother of Mike Lunsford, Perry Hopkins—dad of Mark Hopkins, Jake Pritchard—grandson of Bill & Pat King, Terry Florence—friends of Don & Donna Hartsoe, Harold Dickson, friend of Harry & Ann Hogue, Al & Mary Jauregui—grandparents of Jacqui Marquez, Mack Falls—cousin of Dick Jackson, Carrie Reese—niece of Janet Owings, Anne Futch—sister of Bear Owings, Elizabeth Barnett—mother of Tom Redmond, Betty DuBose—mother of Julia Smith, Joe Carpenter, dad of Mike Carpenter, Helen McCain, mother of Billy McCain, Sharon Fitch, John & Madison Kaneklides, friends of Travis & Christine Newsom, Jeanne Bullard—sister of Kenny Mason, Roger Brewer, Mary Elizabeth Inabinet—cousin of Mary Mason Carpenter, Eddie Doss—friend of Don & Donna Hartsoe, Paul Timms, father of Paula Clayton, Mackenzie DeCuir, Debra Bridges—co-worker of Don Hartsoe, Alex VanEtten, mentor student of Libby Sprouse and Earl Sprouse, uncle to Julie Preston and Scott Sprouse

## *Presbyterian Women*

**Council- Monday, February 2** at 7:00pm at the church with Millie Jones as hostess.

Circle #1 will meet **February 9** at the church at 10:00am

Circle #2 will meet **February 9** at the home of Alice Thompson at 7:00pm

Circle #3 will meet **February 9** at the home of Lisa Hall at 7:00pm

### *Flower Calendar for February*

01	Circle 1
08	Circle 1
15	Circle 1
22	Circle 1

# *Serving the church in February*

*Closing* - Charles Ford

## *Worship Leaders ~ 8:45am*

01 Jennifer Johnson  
08 Terry Swanner  
15 Melanie Wall  
22 Doug Westmoreland

## *Worship Leaders ~ 11:00am*

01 Janet Owings  
08 Betty Westmoreland  
15 Pat Lowe  
22 Brantlee Spurrier

## *Greeters*

01 Barbara Corson, Peggy Adams  
08 Jane McCall, Lillian Lawrence  
15 Linda Henry, Millie Jones  
22 Ann Goode, Marge Woods

## *Offering*

01 Barbara Corson  
08 Jane McCall  
15 Don Hartsoe  
22 Bob Mann

## *Acolytes 11:00*

01 Dominique Perez  
08 Jay Rowland  
15 Jon-Michael Brinkley  
22 Thomas Key

## *Nursery Volunteers (11:00)*

01 Linda Henry  
08 Sara Bolin  
15 Jane McCall  
22 Evelyn Edmunds

## *Children's Church 11:00*

### *3 & 4 year olds*

01 Buddy & Paula Clayton  
08 Carl & Mary Adams  
15 Phyllis & Allison Maynard  
22 Greg & Kristy Rowland

### *K-2nd grade*

01 Paula Brinkley & Brittney Brinkley  
08 John & Julie Preston  
15 Marc & Dawn Dawes  
22 Mark & Martha Spurrier

## *Sunday School*

### *Ladies Bible Class—Ladies Classroom*

01 Kay Gordon  
08 Willie Westmoreland  
15 Pat Lowe  
22 Myrna Kosko

### *Men's Bible Class—Rec. Building*

01 J.S. Edmunds  
08 Charles McLean  
15 Douglass Key  
22 Alice Thompson

### *Adult 1 Class—Church Parlor*

01 Greg Rowland  
08 Kathy Key  
15 Donna Hartsoe  
22 Jane McCall

### *The Seekers Class—Church Library*

01 Bruce Elliott  
08 Jack Scott  
15 Class member  
22 Lisa Hall

## *Youth Suppers*

01 Super Bowl Party at the Key's  
08 Heather McCarley  
15 T & Karen Cox  
22 Bruce & Mildred Elliott

# FEBRUARY

02 Carolyn Thomas  
Marolyn Robinson

03 Danielle Adams

04 Tommy McLean

05 Jeff Sanders

07 Drew Smith  
Johnna Edmunds  
Sloan Jackson

08 Becky Redmond  
Arden Sinclair

09 T Cox

11 Michael Thomas

13 Joey Kosko

14 Mike Crowe  
Terry Bradley

16 Jacquelyn Swanner  
Jessica Swanner

18 Gary Love  
Robert Johnson  
Will Baker  
Tina McAninch

19 Josie Bowman

20 Caleb Thomas  
Julie Preston

22 Kyle McLean  
Chloe Adams

23 Heather McCarley  
Myrna Kosko  
Bradley McAninch

25 Donna Hartsoe

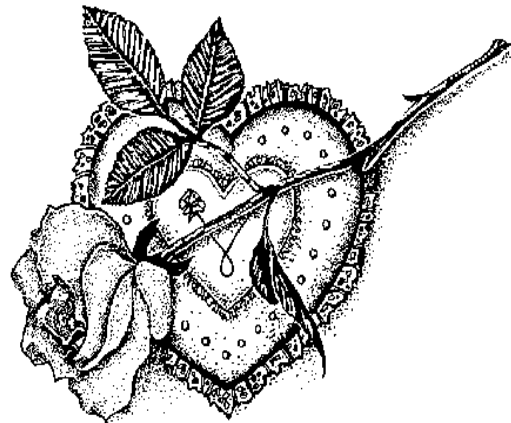
26 Georgeanna Westmoreland



08 Billy & Peggy Adams

14 Ollie & Cheryl Robertson

18 Antonio & Heather Perez



# February 2009 at Clover Presbyterian Church

**Wednesday Activities:**  
 4:45am Music Garten, Cherub & Jr. Choir  
 5:30pm Supper  
 6:00pm FW Friends, Youth Group, Adult Bible Study,  
 Handbell Choir Rehearsal  
 7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Praise Team Rehearsal

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>1—Super Bowl Collection</i> 8:45am Worship 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 6:00pm Super Bowl Party 6:00pm AA	2 7:00pm PW Council	3 6:00am Men's Fellowship 5:30pm AA	4 3:30pm Cub Scouts 7:00pm Camping Trip Meeting Wednesday Activities	5 8:00pm AA	6 8:00pm NA	7
8 8:45am Worship 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 6:00pm Youth Fellowship 6:00pm AA 6:00pm Deacon Bible Study 6:30pm Deacon Meeting	9 10:00am Circle 1 7:00pm Circle 2 Circle 3	10 6:00am Men's Fellowship 5:30pm AA	11 3:30pm Cub Scouts Wednesday Activities	12 8:00pm AA	13 6:00pm Covered Dish & Movie Night 8:00pm NA	14
15 8:45am Worship 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 6:00pm Youth Fellowship 6:00pm AA	16	17 6:00am Men's Fellowship 5:30pm AA	18 3:30pm Cub Scouts Wednesday Activities	19 8:00pm AA	20 8:00pm NA	21
22 8:45am Worship 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship 6:00pm Youth Fellowship AA Session Bible Study 6:30pm Session Meeting	23	24 6:00am Men's Fellowship 5:30pm AA	25 3:30pm Cub Scouts 7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service	26 8:00pm AA	27 8:00pm NA	28

[www.cloverpres.org](http://www.cloverpres.org)

More information about events and activities available online:

Director of Music:  
Christine Newsom  
*csevakok@lcsdk12.sc.us*

Pastor:  
Douglass Key  
*dkkey@cloverpres.org*

Organist:  
Darwin Shaver  
*Darwinshaver@bellsouth.net*

Director of Christian Education:  
Alisa Johnson  
*akjohnson@bellsouth.net*

Director of Preschool:  
Wanda Whitesides  
*w.whitesides@att.net*

Secretary:  
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*Pamtfowler@bellsouth.net*

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